

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
CITY COMMISSION
Tuesday, June 24, 2014**

Be it known that the City of La Feria City Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, June 24, 2014, at 6:30 P.M. in the City Commission Meeting Room, 115 E. Commercial Avenue, La Feria, Texas 78559. The purpose of said meeting was to consider and take action on those items of City Business as was duly posted by agenda in accordance with State Open Meetings Law. The following City Commission members were present at said meeting.

Ms. Esmeralda Lozano	City Commissioner/Mayor Pro Tem
Mr. John Edward Betancourt	City Commissioner
Mr. John Hernandez	City Commissioner
Mr. Julian Guevara	City Commissioner
Ms. Olga H. Maldonado	City Commissioner

Absent: Mr. Victor Gonzalez, Jr. Mayor

The following staff members were present.

Mr. Sunny K. Philip	City Manager
Mr. Richard S. Talbert	City Attorney
Ms. Maria Chavero	Finance Director
Ms. Paula Rodriguez	Planning and Community Dev. Dir.
Ms. Esmeralda Sanchez	Capital Projects Coordinator
Ms. Olga Oberwetter	City Secretary

A copy of the signature roster of all others present is attached as a part of the minutes hereof.

At 6:34 P.M., Mayor Pro Tem Esmeralda Lozano asked Commissioner John Betancourt to give the invocation. After the invocation, Mayor Pro Tem Esmeralda Lozano asked Commissioner Olga H. Maldonado to lead everyone present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. She then declared that a quorum of the City Commission was present and called the meeting to order.

**REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION HELD ON
TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2014**

After review of the minutes, Commissioner Olga H. Maldonado moved to approve the minutes of proceedings of the regular meeting of the City Commission held on Tuesday, June 10, 2014. Commissioner Julian Guevara, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

**REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF
PROCEEDINGS OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING OF THE LA
FERIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LFIDC) HELD ON
THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2014**

Commissioner Olga H. Maldonado moved to table this item and requested that LFIDC Board President Mr. Brad Shields attend the next City Commission meeting to discuss the proceedings of the LFIDC regular meeting held on Thursday, May 1, 2014. Commissioner Julian Guevara, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion carried by a vote of three to one of the City Commission. Commissioner John Hernandez voted against this motion. Mayor Pro Tem Esmeralda Lozano inadvertently voted on this item. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert corrected her and informed her that as Mayor Pro Tem she was serving in the Mayor's stead and as such she had no vote unless she needed to break a tie, which was not the case in this instance.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE REPLAT OF LOT 1 BLOCK 3, LA SIESTA ESTATES SUBDIVISION PHASE I

Planning and Community Development Director Ms. Paula Rodriguez explained the proposed replat of Lot 1 Block 3, La Siesta Estates Subdivision Phase I. Ms. Rodriguez said that this is not in the city limits, but it is in the ETJ (Extra Territorial Jurisdiction) The reason for the item being on the agenda is that the City has review authority of subdivisions in its ETJ. Ms. Rodriguez said that this is an extension of what was originally platted in 2011 and would be Phase II which would consist of 51 lots approximately ½ acre each. The subdivision receives water from the Military Highway Water Supply and they have easements for septic systems. Ms. Rodriguez said the soils have been tested and that they have been found adequate for septic systems. Ms. Paula Rodriguez reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) meeting of Monday, June 16, 2014 did not happen due to lack of quorum; therefore, no public hearing was held by the P&Z. Staff will have to go back to the P&Z and reschedule the public hearing and then bring this item back to the City Commission for action at a later meeting. Since this public hearing by the City Commission was already advertised, the Commission can hear comments on this item. Commissioner Olga H. Maldonado inquired about who had performed the soil test and what sections were tested. City Manager Mr. Sunny K. Philip said that Ms. Rodriguez would get that information and that it would be brought back to the City Commission when the action item is presented. Mayor Pro Tem Esmeralda Lozano declared the public hearing open at 6:45 P.M. In response to an inquiry by Commissioner John Betancourt concerning lights in the subdivision, Mr. Philip said that when the action item comes back to the City Commission, there will be two exceptions on the plat and that is that there would be no curb and gutter and no street lights included in the development. There were no other comments on this item, so Mayor Pro Tem Esmeralda Lozano declared the public hearing closed at 6:47 P.M.

DISCUSSION REGARDING BID(S) RECEIVED ON THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY STRUCK OFF TO CAMERON COUNTY, FOR ITSELF AND OTHER TAXING JURISDICTIONS FROM A TAX RESALE CONDUCTED ON NOVEMBER 5, 2013. LEGAL DESCRIPTION: LOT 7, BLOCK 35, RALEIGH COURTS ADDITION, AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF LA FERIA, CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS, AS DESCRIBED IN VOLUME 1381, PAGE 155, OFFICIAL RECORDS OF CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS (ACCT. NO. 29-7260-0350-0070-00)

City Manager Mr. Sunny K. Philip explained that this item was brought before the City Commission before the new Commissioners were on board, and that the item was tabled to give the non-profit South Texas Collaborative for Housing Development, Inc. an opportunity to purchase the property to further affordable housing in the city. Cameron County had received only one bid on the property. Mr. Philip said that staff was recommending that the City Commission table this item and the next item due to City

Secretary Olga Oberwetter receiving a visit from the person who had bid on the property Noe Olivarez who said that he had purchased the property for his employee who is also his cousin Gloria De La Garza. Mr. Olivarez said that Ms. De La Garza was going to be present at the meeting to discuss the property and ask the City Commission to reconsider this bid. City Attorney Mr. Richard S. Talbert said that this item was for discussion only and that the only item that needs to be tabled is the following item (Item #8).

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE RESOLUTION APPROVING THE BID(S) RECEIVED ON THE TAX RESALE CONDUCTED ON NOVEMBER 5, 2013 FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED PROPERTY

Commissioner Olga H. Maldonado moved to table this item. Commissioner Julian Guevara, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2014

- **Revenue and Expenditure Report**
- **Performance Indicators**
- **Investment Report**
- **Tax Collection Report**

Finance Director Ms. Maria Chavero reviewed the financial reports for the month of May 2014 with the City Commission. Ms. Chavero reviewed the Budget vs. Actual Report reviewing the monthly and the year-to-date figures for the month. She then reviewed the City Investment Report, the Current Year Tax Collection Report, the Delinquent Tax Collection Report, the Court Fines Collection Report and the City Sales and Use Tax Comparison Report. After review and all questions answered, Mayor Pro Tem Esmeralda Lozano announced that the reports would be filed for audit.

REPORTS BY STAFF AND DISCUSSION WITH CITY COMMISSION

- **Update on Drainage Improvement Project**
- **Water and Wastewater Systems Improvements Project**
- **Status of Dome Construction Project**
- **EDA Grant for Technology and Success Center**
- **Unger Park Improvement Project**
- **Trail Improvement Project**
- **Library Grand Opening – Date: June 20, 2014**

City Manager Mr. Sunny K. Philip reported on the following:

- There will be a bid opening on Thursday, June 26, 2014 on AN-47 Drainage Improvements & Kansas City Road Drainage Improvements. The bid award will be on the July 8, 2014 City Commission meeting agenda for award of contract. There will also be a workshop detailing the drainage improvements on the next City Commission agenda. Evans Canal Crossing will be advertised for bids soon.
- Water and Wastewater System Improvements – There will be a bid opening on July 10, 2014 for Water Distribution Improvement Unit G: replacement of AC Line from the Water Treatment Plant to Elevated Tower No. 1. The old water lines made of asbestos will be replaced. Several of the components of the Water and Wastewater System Improvements are being reviewed by the Texas Water Development Board. One item staff is working on is an application to USDA for funding for water and wastewater improvements on the west side.
- Dome Projects – The City Commission awarded the contract to Texas Descon of McAllen, Texas on May 13, 2014 and staff will be meeting with the specialty

contractor on building the dome on Friday and will not sign the contract until after this meeting. Completion date for this project was originally set for August 2014, but staff has requested an extension which was granted to August 2015. Staff will ask the architect to make a presentation at one of the next meetings.

- Technology and Success Center is in the design stage.
- Unger Park – This has been designed and the City will be going out for bids soon.
- Trail Improvement Project – This project is known as the Arroyo Outlook Point. It will start from the Arroyo and come all the way to Business 83. The work is contingent on finalizing the drainage project on the west side.
- The Library Grand Opening was held on June 20, 2014 at 10:00 A.M. Pictures courtesy of La Feria News were available to view. It was a great turnout.

CONSIDER AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON ATTENDANCE STATUS OF MAYOR AND/OR COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Olga H. Maldonado moved to approve Mayor Victor Gonzalez's absence from this meeting. Commissioner Julian Guevara, Jr. seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Esmeralda Lozano declared the public comments session open. She acknowledged Mrs. Delores Fuller who spoke regarding the Police Department, park cameras and the siren; Mr. Paul Markowsky who spoke regarding the election and congratulated the new commissioners, and also spoke about annexation; Ms. Gloria De La Garza who was present to speak regarding the two items that were tabled regarding the property legally described as Lot 7, Block 35, Raleigh Courts Addition, and addition to the city of La Feria, Cameron County, Texas, as described in Volume 1381, Page 155, official records of Cameron County, Texas (ACCT. No. 29-7260-0350-0070-00); and Ms. Sylvia Towne who spoke regarding streets, dead trees, and permits to build. No one else signed up to speak before the City Commission, so Mayor Pro Tem Lozano declared the public comment session closed.

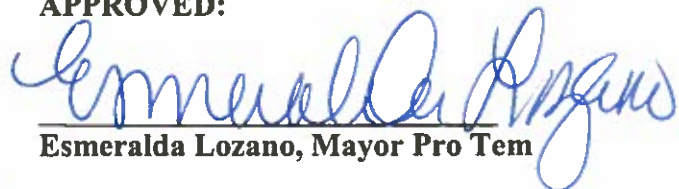
ACTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Olga H. Maldonado moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner John Hernandez seconded the motion, and the motion carried by unanimous vote of the City Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Esmeralda Lozano adjourned the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

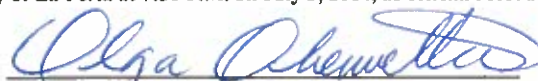
APPROVED:


Esmeralda Lozano, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:


Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

These minutes were prepared and filed with the City of La Feria at 7:30 P.M. on July 5, 2014, as official record.


Olga Oberwetter, City Secretary

CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
AT THE
CITY COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 2014, AT 6:30 PM

WELCOME
PLEASE SIGN IN

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>MAILING ADDRESS</u>	<u>HOME/WORK PHONE NO.</u>
1	Gloria Delacruz	301 W. Magnolia La Feria	757-8196
2	P. P. Martinez	28196 Orange Grove Rd.	797-5843
3	Sylvia Torres	405 Wilkalo P. Feria	797-5413
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